



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*(Note: Today's indictment is available in PDF format and may be downloaded from the district's Web site at [www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow))*

## **GRAND JURY INDICTS 7<sup>TH</sup> HEAVEN OWNERS FOR SELLING ILLEGAL DRUG PARAPHERNALIA**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that the owners of two 7<sup>TH</sup> Heaven stores in Kansas City and Sedalia, Mo., were indicted by a federal grand jury today for selling more than \$3 million worth of illegal drug paraphernalia.

**Jan H. Fichman**, 52, and his wife **Anita Fichman**, 52, both of Leawood, Kan., and Adam Geoffrey's, Inc., doing business as **7<sup>th</sup> Heaven Stores**, were charged in a six-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City. **Jan Fichman** is the president and **Anita Fichman** is the secretary of Adam Geoffrey's.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that the **Fichmans** and Adam Geoffrey's, Inc., doing business as **7<sup>th</sup> Heaven Stores**, participated in a conspiracy to sell drug paraphernalia.

Under federal statutes, Graves explained, it is illegal to sell items of drug paraphernalia, including any equipment primarily intended or designed to ingest or inhale controlled substances, such as marijuana or cocaine. Illegal drug paraphernalia can include (but is not limited to) metal and glass pipes, bongs, concealment pipes and roach clips.

"I took an oath of office to uphold and enforce our nation's laws," Graves said. "Those who sell drug paraphernalia are not only violating federal law, they are supporting a culture of illegal drug use and indirectly profiting from illegal drug trafficking. These head shops have become a lucrative, multi-million dollar enterprise, and we will not simply look the other way when the law is brazenly violated."

Graves described the enforcement of federal laws against the sale of drug paraphernalia as an effective prevention measure.

“The sale of drug paraphernalia has been an active affront to the efforts of parents, educators, and community leaders who are trying to help young people stay away from dangerous drugs,” Graves said. “Today’s indictment should send a clear message to those who would poison our children: We will bring you to justice, and we will put you out of business. We will protect our young people from the scourge of illegal drugs.”

Counts Two through Five of the federal indictment allege four separate instances from Oct. 21, 2003, to May 19, 2004, in which the **Fichmans** and Adam Geoffrey’s, Inc., doing business as **7<sup>th</sup> Heaven Stores**, aiding and abetting each other and others, sold drug paraphernalia.

Count Six of the federal indictment is a forfeiture count, which would require the **Fichmans** and Adam Geoffrey’s, Inc., doing business as **7<sup>th</sup> Heaven Stores**, to forfeit to the government all proceeds derived from the alleged violations, including \$3,120,330, as well as two properties allegedly used in the commission of those violations. The indictment would also require the forfeiture of all drug paraphernalia currently possessed at the Seventh Heaven stores in Kansas City and Sedalia, as well as drug paraphernalia purchased by undercover law enforcement officers.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Catherine A. Connelly. It was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department, the Sedalia, Mo., Police Department and the Leawood, Kan., Police Department.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

[www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow](http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow)